Fixing the time for the next day's meeting.

President.—I shall consult the convenience of the Members, so far as the time of to-morrow's meeting is concerned. To-morrow is New Moon day, and, according to orders of Government, to-morrow is a half-holiday. So the work will begin only at 1-30 p. m. in the usual course of things. Of course, our time is very valuable and we cannot afford to lose half a day, and if the Members will have no objection, I propose that the meeting may commence at 12 noon, because all that has to be done in connection with the New Moon is to perform *Tharppanam*. From my point of view, we could do it before 11 o'clock, and we would be in a position to attend the meeting at 12. Of course, Mr. Ramachandra Ayyar will have something to say in this matter, because it was in pursuance of his motion that it was made a half-holiday. Mr. Ramachandra Ayyar, shall we hold the meeting at 12 ?

Dr. A. G. Menon.—We have no objection, Sir.

President.—So we will hold the meeting at 12.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—The interval may be cut short by half-an hour.

President.—Why not we have it in the usual way ?

Dr. A. G. Menon.—We have to deal with important matters.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—To-morrow we have to deal with Education.

President.—So far as these demands are concerned, I am not quite sure whether we would be able to dispose of each head on the particular day. The question is whether each demand must be taken to have been fully disposed of on each day.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—According to the rules, we cannot adjourn. If it is not taken, the whole thing must be taken as passed.

President.—The rule says that it will be taken as passed only if it is not over by 5 o'clok on the last day.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—We can get over the difficulty by extending the time till 5-30, if it is not finished.

President.—I re-arranged the heads for the purpose of giving sufficient time. Last time there was a representation that important subjects should be put first, so that the Members may have an opportunity to discuss them. So I have put Education first. Now, there is a suggestion that it must be extended to 5-30 p. m.

Dr. A. R. Menon — That makes no difference. It won't cause inconvenience to anybody.

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President.—We have other items of work also to be got through, e. g., the election of the non-official members of the Standing Finance Committee. I do not know whether it is advisable to sit after 5.

Mr. T. K. Krishna Menon.—A few of us have got another engagement; we have a meeting at 5-15 p. m.

President.—In the interests of health also, I think we cannot sit after 5 p. m. Health is of more paramount consideration.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—We are going to force upon the Government a division to-morrow. Our attitude towards the Government will be hostile, and we shall show to whomsoever concerned that our hostile attitude is justified; and that will take time.

President.—But should that keep us after 5 p. m.? Anyhow, on that question I do not come to any decision at present. We shall commence the meeting at 12 noon.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Instead of taking one hour for questions and answers, let it be cut short to half an hour.

President.—No, the rule says that the first hour is for questions and answers. But supposing the questions and answers are over before 12-30 p. m., then, of course, we shall proceed with other items of work.

Mr. C. Achyuta Menon.—I shall suggest another means. Why not cut short the interval by half an hour?

President.—No, that does not seem possible.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Sir, allow me, please, to thank you for allowing us to make our own arrangements within our block.

President.—We will now continue the general discussion.

The general discussion of the Budget.

Mr. M. K. Raman.—"Mr. President, on the two previous occasions, when I had the honour to take part in the general discussion of the annual budget, my remarks were entirely a series of unmingled criticisms, on the general policy of the State administration, in so far as the Government's attitude towards the non-caste Hindu communities was concerned. On the present occasion, however, I am glad that the Government have afforded me some opportunities to season my adverse remarks with a few expressions of gratitude which, if I omit to do, I believe, I will be guilty of culpable negligence in the performance of my duty. At the outset, I beg leave to thank the Government for the steps they have been recently taking towards the amelioration of the suffering backward communities in the State. I understand that the Diwan was kind enough to

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